[002] This application is a national stage completion of PCT/EP2003/007434 filed July 9, 2003 which claims priority from German Application Serial No. 102 31 547.7 filed July 11, 2002.

[003] FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[005] BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[011] SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[042] BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[043] ~~Advantageous embodiments are schematically presented in the figures. There is shown in~~ The invention will now be described, by way of example, with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

[058] DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[065] As one can readily see from the Fig. 5a, it is clear that the arrangement of the shifting finger on the shifting finger shaft, onto which the gear shift lever 4 is directly connected, requires a counter direction, sliding displacement direction of the shifting rods in relation to the activation direction of the gear shift lever 4.

[080] In a further alternative embodiment of the invention, (Fig. 12), for example, provision is made that the conversion apparatus, that is, the inversion apparatus 308 be constructed out of shifting finger shaft 311 and a plurality of shifting rods 310a to [[d]] 310d, whereby the shifting finger shaft 311 is placed essentially at right angles to the shifting rods 310a to [[d]] 310d. In this way, the two shifting rods 310a and [[b]] 310b (as seen in their installation position when placed in a motor vehicle) are essentially placed underneath and the two other shifting rods 310c and [[d]] 310d are above or even laterally placed to the left and right of the shifting finger shaft 311. In the shifting rods 310a to [[d]] 310d

are provided, respectively two shifting grooves 327a to [[d]] 327d and [[e]] 327e to [[h]] 327h, respectively, which correspond with the shown shifting fingers. In the case of a turning movement of the shifting finger shaft 311, for instance, in a clockwise direction, the shifting finger 313d pivots into the shifting groove 327d, likewise, turning in clockwise direction, so that the shifting rod 310d is pushed to the right in the direction of the first gear (1.). At the same time, the shifting finger 313b pivots upon a turning of the shift finger shaft 311 in the clockwise direction out of the corresponding shifting groove 327b of the shifting rod 310b, so that the shifting rod 310b carries out no pushing motion of its own. The remaining shifting rods 310a and [[c]] 310c are, not in connection with the corresponding shifting fingers 313a and [[c]] 313c, so that even these shifting rods 310a and [[c]] 310c carry out no shifting motions.

[083] Thus, from Fig. 13, one may infer, that the shifting finger 313d is located in the shifting groove 327d of the shifting rod 310d. In a turning motion of the shifting finger shaft 311 in the clockwise direction, the shifting rod 310d, by means of the shifting finger 313d is pushed to the right and thus, for example, sets the first (1.) gear stage. The shifting finger 313b finds itself in the groove 327b in Fig. 13 of the shifting rod 310b (not shown), which would be found in the drawing plane behind the illustrated shifting rod 310a. The shifting finger 313a is not engaged with the corresponding groove 327a in the shifting rod 310a and pivots, thus, in a plane parallel to the shifting rod 310a, without activating the shifting rod 310a. The position shown in Fig. 13 of the shifting rods 310a and 310d as well as the thereto associated shifting fingers 313[[ ]]a, 313b, 313d corresponds to the neutral position.